The tenures of all the above Directors/Members, (except Shri G. Ramachandran) have expired on 27th March, 1998 and they are continuing to hold office pending appointment of their successors. The tenure of Shri G. Ramachandran has expired on 9th May, 1999 and he is also continuing pending appointment of his successor.

Deduction in allocation of HP Government on Account of NJPC

3903. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested for refund of Rs. 3.47 crore deducted by the Central Government on account of the payments to NJPC whereas the State Government does not owe any such liability to NJPC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the request of the State Government as early as possible; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Pay Scales for Clerical and Junior Level Officers of Banks

3904. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of pay scales for clerical and junior level officers of the Nationalised Banks which has recently been revised; and

(b) in what manner these pay scales compare with the staff in Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) The revised Pay Scales in clerical cadre and Officers in Junior Management Grade Scale I (JMGSI) in nationalised banks

as well as pay scale of a clerk (LDC) and that of Section Officer in Government of India are as follows:

(i) **Pay Scales in banks**

Clerical Staff: 3020-135-3425-225-4100-320-5380-340-6400-380-7920-680-8600-380-8980.

Officers in Junior Management Grade Scale I: 7100-340-12540

(ii) **Pay Scales in Government**

Clerk (LDC) 3050-75-3950-80-4590.

Section Officer: 6500-200-10500.

(b) Pay Scales of Bank Employees/Officers and Central Government Employees/Officers are not comparable because they are made effective from different dates; are build up by merger of Dearness Allowance (DA) at different levels etc. While the Pay Scales of Government Employees were made effective from 1-1-1996 and are based on DA merger at 1510 points, the revised pay scales of bank employees have been made effective from 1-11-1997 and are based on merger of DA upto 1684 points.

Import Duty on Foodgrains

†3905. DR.D.MASTHAN:

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have increased import duty on foodgrains during the last one year;

(b) if so, the names of such goodgrains alongwith the rate of import duty fixed thereon; and

(c) the dates of fixing the above import duties and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, the rates of basic customs duty have been increased on certain foodgrains. The names of foodgrains and the rates of duty fixed are given below:

1. Wheat—50%,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.